

PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

DATE: January 17, 2006

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:32 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 6:45 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Attending Members

Mary Moriarty Adams, Chairwoman
Greg Bowes
Vernon Brown
William Oliver
Lincoln Plowman
Scott Schneider

Absent Members

Sherron Franklin
Lynn McWhirter

AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 668, 2005 - appoints Dr. Eugene White to the Marion County
Community Corrections Advisory Board
"Postponed" Vote: 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 2, 2006 - approves an increase of \$194,748 in the 2006 Budget of the
Marion Superior Court (State and Federal Grants Fund) to provide funding that benefits
the Community Work Service program and the Indy Nite Lite program, both of which are
provided to the juvenile court by the probation department
"Do Pass" Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 3, 2006 - approves certain public purpose grants totaling \$500,000
from the Drug Free Community Fund
"Do Pass as Amended" Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 4, 2006 - approves an appropriation totaling \$271,188 in the 2006
Budget of the Marion County Community Corrections (Conditional Release Fund) to pay
personal services expenses and equipment lease costs associated with the pre-trial home
detention program, financed by fund balance
"Do Pass" Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 5, 2006 - approves an increase of \$14,000 in the 2006 Budget of the
Department of Public Safety, Animal Care and Control Division (Consolidated County
Fund), to install soundproofing banners in the animal shelter and to pay advertising costs
associated with the Canine Crime Stoppers tip line program and other anti dog-fighting
outreach initiatives, financed by private donations
"Do Pass" Vote: 5-0

PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee of the City-County Council met on Tuesday, January 17, 2006. Chairwoman Mary Moriarty Adams called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. with the following members present: Greg Bowes, Vernon Brown, William Oliver, Lincoln Plowman, and Scott Schneider. Absent were Sherron Franklin, and Lynn McWhirter. Also present was Bart Brown, the Council's Chief Financial Officer.

PROPOSAL NO. 5, 2006 - approves an increase of \$14,000 in the 2006 Budget of the Department of Public Safety, Animal Care and Control Division (Consolidated County Fund), to install soundproofing banners in the animal shelter and to pay advertising costs associated with the Canine Crime Stoppers tip line program and other anti dog-fighting outreach initiatives, financed by private donations

Leslie Fatum, Director of Animal Care and Control, stated that the purpose of this ordinance is to allow Animal Care and Control to appropriate \$6,000 from the Animal Care Donation Fund to pay for billboards. These billboards will be used as a community outreach initiative aimed at preventing and enforcing the anti-dog fighting ordinances. She said the rest of the funding, which is \$8,000, will come from the Special Projects Donation Fund. This funding will pay for sound-proofing banners that will be hung from the kennels to decrease the echo and noise.

Chairwoman Moriarty Adams asked how many billboards could be purchased with \$6,000. Ms. Fatum stated that in a three-month period this funding will pay for 4 billboards. Animal Care and Control is partnering with Indy-Pit Crew, which is a Pit Bull welfare organization that has a particular interest in the welfare of the Pit Bull, which is also used primarily for dog fighting purposes. Ms. Fatum stated that Indy-Pit Crew has already erected some billboards and they will stay up for at least three months. The plan is for Animal Care and Control to supplement those billboards when the time comes.

Councillor Brown asked where the billboards will be located. Ms. Fatum stated that the billboards would be located in Center Township, because that is where most of the dog fighting complaints come from. Councillor Brown asked if there was a reward for calling in a complaint. Ms. Fatum stated that the reward is \$1,000 and there is also the potential to get additional monies from the Humane Society. Ms. Fatum stated that the number to call to make a complaint is on the web site.

Councillor Bowes asked what fund the donations are placed in when they are received. Robert Clifford, City Controller, stated that he cannot remember if the funding is kept in a sub account or just by index, but the money is segregated within the General Fund. Mr. Clifford said the money is tracked and monitored but it is rolled up into the General Fund because it is easier to report.

Leigh Richards, citizen, asked if anyone is tracking the animals that come into the system as well as their owners. Ms. Fatum stated that the animals are tracked as soon as they come into the system and receive an identification number. The police keep the tracking of an individual animal pending the circumstance.

Councillor Brown moved, seconded by Councillor Oliver, to send Proposal No. 5, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 668, 2005 - appoints Dr. Eugene White to the Marion County Community Corrections Advisory Board

Councillor Oliver moved, seconded by Councillor Brown, to “Postpone” Proposal No. 668, 2005 to the next public safety meeting on Wednesday, January 25, 2006. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 2, 2006 - approves an increase of \$194,748 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion Superior Court (State and Federal Grants Fund) to provide funding that benefits the Community Work Service program and the Indy Nite Lite program, both of which are provided to the juvenile court by the probation department

Sue Patterson, Director of Finance, stated this is the seventh year for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant, and this year there is only 25 percent of the funds available than what has been available in past years. The courts went from \$760,000 in past years to \$194,748 this year. She said that there are five programs that will be funded from this program. The first three are the diversion program for juveniles with their first offense, an adolescent sexual offender program, and a female sexual offender program. The last two programs are in-house with the first being the Restitution and Community Work Service Program. This program provides youth with a way to repay their victims by doing community work service and the youth are paid \$5 an hour. The Clerk would disburse this money to the victims. The last program is the Indianapolis Police Department (IPD) Indy Nite Lite program. This program involves children that are not in the detention center that are supposed to be going to school and home only. The officers of this program would check on these kids to make sure that they are where they are supposed to be. Ms. Patterson said that there is a 25 percent local match that is covered by the Reach for Youth Diversion Program and there are no tax dollars involved.

Councillor Bowes asked why the hourly wage was not at the Federal minimum hourly wage. Ms. Patterson stated that she was not sure, but she can check on that and provide that information.

Councillor Oliver asked were these juveniles go to work off the restitution. Ms. Patterson said that the jobs are mostly with not-for-profit groups and churches. Councillor Oliver asked if once the restitution is paid off if they have to stay in the program. Ms. Patterson answered in the negative.

Councillor Brown asked if the officers in the Indy Nite Lite program would go out to the kids’ homes and check on the kids. Ms Patterson answered in the affirmative.

Councillor Oliver moved, seconded by Councillor Bowes, to send Proposal No. 2, 2005 to the full Council with a “Do Pass” recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 3, 2006 - approves certain public purpose grants totaling \$500,000 from the Drug Free Community Fund

Diana Burleson, Director of the Marion County Justice Agency (MCJA), stated that this funding was appropriated under Fiscal Ordinance 115, 2005. The recommendations have been made by the Drug Free Community and also to the Criminal Justice Planning Council. She said that this proposal sets the organizations that have been recommended to receive Drug Free Marion County Funds.

Randy Miller, Executive Director of Drug Free Marion County, stated that grants that are being allocated should have begun January 1, 2006 and it had created a hardship for some of the organizations.

Councillor Bowes asked at what part of the process were these grants delayed. Mr. Miller stated that Drug Free Marion County's part of the process was completed back in August 2005. He said that there were a variety of things that happened at different stages that caused the delays. Councillor Bowes asked if the CJPC has changed their process with modifying or rejecting the proposal. Mr. Miller stated that there have been changes in CJPC and this occurs every year. Ms. Burleson stated that in the future the plan is for the subcommittee of the CJPC to participate along with the board of Drug Free Marion County at the time they review the proposals because of all the changes that occur. Ms. Burleson explained that the amount on page 2 of Proposal No. 3, 2006 needed to be changed. The Marion County Prosecutor MCPO Narcotics Eviction Program in the amount of \$45,000 needs to be changed to \$47,500. This is a typing error and it does not change any other amounts.

Councillor Bowes moved, seconded by Councillor Schneider, to "Amend" Proposal No. 3, 2005 by changing the amount on page 2 for the Marion County Prosecutor MCPO Narcotics Eviction Program from \$45,000 to \$47,500. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0

Councillor Brown asked what the connection is with Brightwood and Forest Manor. Mr. Miller stated that this partnership has been in existence for years. He said that this a collaboration between the Indianapolis Public Schools and the Perry Township schools.

Councillor Schneider asked where the money comes from for Drug Free Marion County. Mr. Clifford said that this proposal is not a fiscal ordinance that these funds have already been appropriated; it is the authorization for the Council to pay the money. Ms. Burleson stated that this money is statutory where the funds are to come from. The funds come from specific court fees and go into a drug free community fund, which is collected by the Clerk's office and the MCJA is the fiscal administrator. Then the money is appropriated into the MCJA's budget. Councillor Schneider asked for a brief breakdown of each project. Ms. Burleson stated that she would get that information to the committee members.

Councillor Bowes moved, seconded by Councillor Schneider, to send Proposal No. 3, 2005 to the full Council with a "Do Pass as Amended" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 4, 2006 - approves an appropriation totaling \$271,188 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion County Community Corrections (Conditional Release Fund) to pay personal services expenses and equipment lease costs associated with the pre-trial home detention program, financed by fund balance

Brian Barton, Director of Community Corrections, stated that this proposal will be used to pay the cost for salaries and the leasing of equipment. The Pre-trial program provides a needed relief to the Marion County Jail and the criminal courts. Last fiscal year Community Corrections served 721 pre-trial folks on the home detention program and that was a 15% growth. Mr. Barton said that a portion of Community Corrections' budget did not get advertised with the rest of the 2006 grants.

Councillor Bowes asked if the Conditional Release fund involves any money from taxes. Mr. Barton answered in the negative. He said that these funds come from the fee that is accessed for home detention.

Councillor Oliver asked who determined which offender is placed into the program. Mr. Barton stated that it is either the Commissioner's over at the Arrestee Processing Center or the sentencing court. Councillor Oliver asked if this is part of the jail overcrowding process. Mr. Barton stated that this program does help with the jail overcrowding problem.

Councillor Schneider moved, seconded by Councillor Brown, to send Proposal No. 4, 2005 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councillor Plowman requested an update on the tier levels that were proposed and then approved by the Thursday afternoon group. Mr. Brown stated that he would get with the Thursday afternoon group and get them to provide a status report for the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee.

CONCLUSION

With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Moriarty Adams, Chairwoman
Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee

MMA/rjp